

**IDAHO WOMEN'S COMMISSION**  
**FALL MEETING**  
**October 19, 2006**  
**Boise, Idaho**  
**Department of Finance Conference Room**  
**State Capitol**  
**Room 120**

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm:

The Commission provided Box lunches.  
In attendance: Chairman Fran Dingle, Linda Hurlbutt, Farhana Hibbert, Amy Taylor, Sonna Lynn Fernandez, Debra Wilson, Kathy Martin, Dawn Shepherd, Marilyn Hempleman, Jeanne Wride, and Director Kitty Kunz. Those unable to attend: Shirley Kaiyou, Sarah Bedke, and Rayelle Anderson.

Chairman Dingle welcomed all newly appointed commissioners and we took a moment to tell a little about ourselves.

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm:

**Commission Business Meeting:**

The minutes of 06/21/06 were read and approved with minor changes.

Julie Swanson, Legislative Services, explained the Commission Budget for 2006 and 2007. She informed the commission the request has been submitted to the Governor and copies of the budget are in all packets.

Ms. Swanson was very helpful in explaining how the Commission can be an influence in getting the new budget approved. It was explained that we need to contact legislators and educate them on the workings of the Commission as there seems to be some question of, "Is the Commission really meeting the needs of Women and Families in Idaho?"

Strategies were discussed on how the Commission might better encourage legislatures, especially those legislatures on JFAC, to understand the mission of the Commission and how our funding needs to be increased.

The misunderstanding seems to be that the Commission now comes under the Executive Office of Families and Children and there is a concern there may be duplication.

Ms. Kunz also explained the budget to the Commission and a copy of the 2006/2007 budget was distributed and reviewed by the Commission.

The updated copy of the booklet “Idaho laws, A Guide for Women and Families” was reviewed. The cover will be of a different color, so that it will be easily distinguished from the previous edition. A Spanish copy of the booklet is in the translation stage and hopefully will be ready to be distributed at the same time as the new English version. The Spanish copies cover will be of a different color.

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Florence McCree, a Boise State Graduate Student, spoke to her masters project. Ms McCree hopes to create a program of “Women Helping Women.” She would appreciate any help the Commissioners could give her. Ms McCree distributed her phone number as well as her e-mail address and would very much like to hear from Commissioners. She would like to be able to contact through networking successful women business owners, CEO’s of companies and professional women such as CPA’s etc. to mentor women who are looking to become successful professionals themselves.

3:00 pm

Commissioner Amy Taylor showed the commission the publication she is now owner of. The publication was created by Amy and her sister and has become very successful in the Idaho Falls area. The issue she gave the Commission focused on “Successful Mom’s.” Ms. Taylor encouraged the Commission to consider way to encourage women to become business owners and offer help to those wishing to start their own business.

Kitty Kunz then spoke about the changes in the Commission Strategic Plan.

It was indicated there needs to be a way of coordinating the Commission’s efforts and the Department of Families and Children to avoid duplication, which has been a concern of some Legislators. There also needs to be a way to get non-profits talking to each other and coordinating efforts.

**MOTION:**

**Object #6 of the Strategic Plan was discussed:**

Farhana Hibbert moved to remove “Provide direct grants and mentorship to women”

**Under: Actions/Strategies**

Point one: remove, “Award grants to assist women owned businesses.

Point three: remove, “Award grants to women in need of legal assistance.”

Point four: remove after “the” grants and add “mentoring program.

### **Under: Performance Measures**

Point one: remove "Establish a grant program."

Linda Hurlbutt seconded the motion.

### **MOTION PASSED**

The mission statement of the Commission was discussed. Suggestions were "We work to improve the lives of women in Idaho" also "Empowerment" also "Become involved in your local community and try to understand the needs of the women in your area."

The discussion then moved to Volunteer Hours:  
It is extremely important we keep track of our volunteer hours and how many books are distributed as well as where. Ms. Kunz needs to know for our Agency Profile report due the end of July every year.

The "Commission on Aging" seminar was discussed and it was said the event went very well.

Farhana Hibbert reported on the *Mujeres Unidas de Idaho Conference* in Pocatello. The Conference was a great success. Many topics dealing with women and their families were covered.

Assignments were made:

1. Send information to Florence McCree
2. Contact the Legislators on JFAC
3. Send information for business cards to Kitty
4. Let Kitty Kunz know of any conferences in your area.

The next Idaho Women's Commission meeting will be held February 28<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 4pm in Boise, Idaho.

4:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Jeanne Wride